



DOCKET NO.: 247264US0CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

:

Naoto TONOUCHI, et al.

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1652

SERIAL NO.: 10/763,249

:

FILED: JANUARY 26, 2004

: EXAMINER: WALICKA, M. A.

FOR: PEPTIDE-FORMING ENZYME GENE, PEPTIDE-FORMING ENZYME, AND
PEPTIDE PRODUCING METHOD

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action dated December 16, 2005, Applicants elect, with
traverse, Group I, Claims 1-34, for further prosecution.

REMARKS

The Office has required restriction in the present application as follows:

- Group I: Claims 1-34, drawn to a peptide forming enzymes of SEQ ID NO: 15 and 17, encoding DNA molecules of SEQ ID NO: 14 and 16, expression vectors, host cells method of recombinant production of said enzyme and the method of use of transformants for production of dipeptide;
- Group II: Claims 35-46, drawn to a method for producing a dipeptide by proline iminopeptidase in vitro; and
- Group III: Claims 47-48, drawn to a method of using a culture of a microbe for producing a dipeptide.

Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-34, for further prosecution.